(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, the Government has taken several remedial steps such as:—

(i) Old age and widow pension cases have been sanctioned to the eligible weavers.

(ii) Distribution of rice at the rate of 10 kgs per family to the affected family members.

(iii) 1100 white ration cards were distributed among the affected weavers.

(iv) Health camps are organized in the affected areas.

(v) Survey of powerloom weavers is being taken up by the District Rural Development Agency at Siricilla.

(vi) Arrangement of training to women on Juki (Japan) Sewing Machines. Besides this the District Administration is taking steps to impart training in embroidery, computer and other skill-upgrading occupation.

(vii) State Government have planned to train shop floor workers to provide jobs in to Apparel Export Park to extend alternate related opportunity for employment.

(viii) State Government have decided to give training to families of deceased powerloom workers on Juki Sewing Machines at Common Facility Centre of Gundlapochampally.

(ix) State Government have disbursed an amount of Rs. 24.66 crores through cheques/demand drafts to 354 societies.

Imports of silk yarn and silk products

4390. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that silk yarn and silk products are being imported during the last three years;

(b) if so, the countries from where these are imported;

(c) the year-wise total quantity of these items imported;

(d) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Union

Government to impose a ban on import of such items; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The figures of total quantity of silk yarn and other silk products imported during the last three years and during the current year are given below:

Qty. in tonnes

Year	Imports of			
	Raw Silk	Dupion Silk Yarn	Spun Silk Yarn	Noil Yarn
1998-99(P)	2824	492	19	26
1999-2000(P)	6936	768	26	39
2000-2001(P) April-December	3521	Data not available	Data not available	Data not available

Source: DGCIS, Calcutta

P: Provisional

(b) and (c) Country-wise and year-wise import of raw silk during the period from 1998—01 is given below:—

Country	1998-99(P)	1999-2000(P)	2000-2001(P) (April-Dec.)
China P. Republic	2203	6409	3219
China Taipei	94	39	119
Brazil	170	130	21
Korea D. Republic	4	10	0
Korea Republic	98	63	19

Country	1998-99(P)	1999-2000(P)	2000-2001(P) (April-Dec.)
Hongkong	144	189	94
Singapore	28	4	3
Others	83	92	46
TOTAL	2824	6936	3521

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal under consideration to ban import of silk items.

Grants to National Institute of Fashion Technology

†4391. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grants provided by Government to the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) during each of the last five years; and

(b) whether the accounts of the National Institute of Fashion Technology have been audited;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are the criteria on which Government releases grants to the National Institute of Fashion Technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Details of grants-in-aid released from year 1996-97 to 2000-01 released to National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) are given in a Statement as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Year	Grant released		
		Plan	Non-Plan	Total
1.	1996-97	440.00	201.00	641.00
2.	1997-98	770.00	183.00	953.00
3.	1998-99	1099.00	183.00	1282.00
4.	1999-2000	1490.00	159.00	1649.00
5.	2000-01	2436.00	350.00	2786.00
	TOTAL	6235.00	1076.00	7311.00

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.